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April 23, 2015

National Freedom of Information Officer
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Headquarters
hq.foia@epa.gov

Via online submission form

Re: Freedom of Information Act Request for Responses from 18 Companies Informing EPA's Study on Potential Impacts of Hydraulic Fracturing on Drinking Water Resources

Dear Freedom of Information Act Officer:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), 5 U.S.C. § 552 *et seq.*, and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) FOIA regulations, 40 C.F.R. § 2.100 *et seq.*, I am writing on behalf of the Environmental Integrity Project (EIP) to request records held by EPA. According to EPA's 2011 Hydraulic Fracturing Study Plan, EPA sent a September 2010 letter requesting data from nine hydraulic fracturing service companies on the identity and quantity of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing fluid from the past five years of the date of the letter.¹ As also stated in the study plan, EPA sent another letter in August 2011 requesting data from nine randomly chosen oil and gas well operators regarding operations at specific well sites to determine whether existing local geologic or man-made features are identified prior to hydraulic fracturing, and if so, what types are of concern.² Given that, EIP seeks records concerning:

- Documents and data requested by and/or derived from EPA's September 2010 information requests seeking information on the chemical composition of fluids used in the hydraulic fracturing process within the past five years from the date of the request, data on the impacts of the chemicals on human health and the environment, standard operating procedures at hydraulic fracturing sites, and the locations of sites where fracturing has been conducted, which were sent to the following nine hydraulic fracturing companies:
 - (1) BJ Services
 - (2) Complete Well Services
 - (3) Haliburton
 - (4) Key Energy Services
 - (5) Patterson-UTI
 - (6) RPC
 - (7) Schlumberger
 - (8) Superior Well Services

¹ U.S. EPA, PLAN TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF HYDRAULIC FRACTURING ON DRINKING WATER RESOURCES 20, 30 (Nov. 2011), *available at* http://www2.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/hf_study_plan_110211_final_508.pdf.

² *Id.* at 20, 38.

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- Documents and data requested by and/or derived from EPA's August 2011 information requests regarding data on well construction, design, and well operation practices for 350 oil and gas wells that were hydraulically fractured from 2009 to 2011, which were sent to the following nine companies that own or operate oil and gas wells:
 - (1) Clayton Williams Energy
 - (2) Conoco Phillips
 - (3) EQT Production
 - (4) Hogback Exploration
 - (5) Laramie Energy II
 - (6) MDS Energy
 - (7) Noble Energy
 - (8) Sand Ridge Operating
 - (9) Williams Production

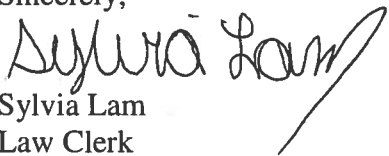
This request applies to agency files in any form, and also covers any non-identical duplicates of records that by reason of notation, attachment or other alteration or supplement, includes any information not in the original record.

Please include in your response an explanation of which records, if any, may be privileged or exempt from this FOIA request and why. If you claim that the records should not be disclosed, please justify your refusal by referring to the specific exemption that you are invoking under FOIA. In addition, please provide those portions of documents with information requested that are not specifically exempted from disclosure.

Moreover, EIP requests EPA to grant a fee waiver for this FOIA. I have included a request for a fee waiver as an attachment. If you determine not to grant a fee waiver and the costs of completing this FOIA request will exceed \$100.00, please contact me at your earliest convenience with the estimated costs of completion.

Thank you for your assistance with this request. I look forward to hearing from you. If I can provide any additional information or answer any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (202) 888-2701 or slam@environmentalintegrity.org

Sincerely,



Sylvia Lam

Law Clerk

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Attachment: fee waiver request